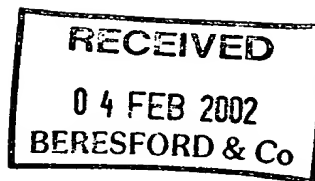




AM



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**Your Reference: 2721901/AM
Application No: GB 0020314.1**

1 February 2002

Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)

I enclose two copies of my search report and four copies of the citations.

Plurality of invention

I consider that your application relates to more than one invention as follows:

- (A) Claims 1-28 and 33-60, and
- (B) Claims 29-31 and 61-63.

The remaining claims 32 and 64-66 relate to both inventions (A) and (B).

My search report relates to the first invention only. If you want the other invention searched, you should file a further Patents Form 9/77.

Publication

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **5 March 2002**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

Entered By:	<i>Am</i>
Due:	11 / 2 / 02
Bring Up:	10 / 2 / 02

[†]Use of E-mail: Please note that e-mail should be used for correspondence only.



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Application No: GB 0020314.1

Page 2

1 February 2002

Amendment/withdrawal

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: **"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT"**.

Yours faithfully

Martyn Dixon
Examiner



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Application No: GB 0020314.1
Claims searched: 1-28 and 33-60

Examiner: Martyn Dixon
Date of search: 31 January 2002

Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.T): H4R (RDSD,RDVD,RPV,RPVA,RPBE)

Int Cl (Ed.7): G10L

Other: Online: EPODOC,WPI,JAPIO,INSPEC

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
A	GB 2137052 A (Stowbell) see e.g. page 2, lines 91 <i>et seq</i>	
X	US 4905286 A (NRDC) see the whole document	1-4,12,13, 22,23, 33-36,44, 45,54,55
A,E	JP 2001044926 A (SK Telecom) see abstract	

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.

& Member of the same patent family

A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.